# WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF BEING A SHIIP COUNSELOR?

"I feel very satisfied that I can help clients make good decisions, save money, and gain a better understanding of their options regarding Medicare."

**T TOWNSEND** 

"The feeling of genuinely contributing to your fellow citizens and community."

D RUHL

"Learning new things, keeping my mind sharp, this volunteer job certainly does that."

#### DON'T WAIT-CONTACT SHIP NOW!

1-800-351-4664 SHIIP@iid.iowa.gov

## BE A SHIIP VOLUNTEER

HELP IOWANS UNDERSTAND MEDICARE



## OTHER SHIIP OPPORTUNITIES...

SHIIP has volunteer opportunities for computer and office assistants in many of our sponsor locations. Computer volunteers help enter prescription drug information for comparison of Medicare drug plans. Office assistants help with scheduling appointments and other office



#### WHAT IS SHIIP?

The Senior Health Insurance Information Program was created in 1990 by the Iowa Insurance Division.

SHIIP advocates, informs, educates and assists consumers on Medicare and related health insurance issues so they can make informed decisions and access resources to address their needs.

Our services are free, objective and confidential.

### HOW DOES SHIIP WORK?

Local organizations partner with SHIIP to host trained volunteers who provide information, counseling and education services in communities across the state.

SHIIP is funded by a federal grant and by the state of Iowa Insurance Division

"Being a SHIIP volunteer is the best volunteer job I have ever done."

**S LACEY** 



### WHAT DO SHIIP VOLUNTEERS DO?

Trained volunteers assist thousands of Iowans each year to understand their Medicare benefits and options through individual counseling sessions, community education, special projects and making connections in their communities.

## WHO MAKES A GOOD COUNSELOR?

We're looking for people who:

- Enjoy tackling new challenges
- Like to learn complex subject matter
- Have good computer skills and are internet savvy
- Can work with diverse populations
- Gain personal satisfaction from helping clients navigate the challenges of understanding Medicare
- Can be a trusted and objective source of information

## WHAT IS REQUIRED TO BE A SHIIP COUNSELOR?

To assure SHIIP counselors are proficient and have the information and tools they need to be prepared for the counseling and education sessions, volunteers are required to:

- Complete new volunteer training
- Attend educational update seminars
- Assist a minimum number of clients throughout the year.
- Complete online reviews

So volunteers can proceed with confidence during counseling and educational sessions, SHIIP provides excellent resources including a dedicated 800# answered by staff, print resources, and updated information.

"It may be a steep learning curve at first, but the program has excellent training and excellent resources for the volunteers."

**C HINTON**